

ABSTRACT

G-IB-180

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(182)

1767 (mound), 1902 (monument)

Finzel, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. ---(182) and its large mound of earth mark Mason and Dixon's 168th mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain, dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland; is in good condition, unaltered, firmly set; measures about 10 inches square by about 22 inches high above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when this site was surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when this new monument was added to the mound during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary). The mound is a particularly well-preserved one, oval in shape, in excellent condition, and measures about 11 feet by 14 feet in diameter by about 3 feet high above the ground at the center, where the monument now replaces the original wood post long since gone. On the national and state levels, No. ---(182) and its mound are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Survey No. G-IB-180

Magi No.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)  
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE, 168th mile Post and Heap of Earth

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. <sup>182</sup>~~180~~)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET &amp; NUMBER off the west side of MD 546/LR-55002

CITY, TOWN

Finzel

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS		<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<b>X not applicable</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list) Liber #: Folio #:

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

G-IB-180 entered 9/4/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION  
☒ EXCELLENT (mound)    ☐ DETERIORATED  
☒ GOOD (monument)    ☐ RUINS  
☐ FAIR    ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE (monument)    CHECK ONE  
☒ UNALTERED & mound)    ☒ ORIGINAL SITE (mound)  
☐ ALTERED    ☐ MOVED    DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. --- (182) and its mound of earth mark Mason and Dixon's 168th mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. The monument was a new, dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top added to the center of the mound in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in good condition, firmly set, unaltered; measures 10 inches square by about 22 inches above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when the site was originally surveyed and marked), and 1902 on the west side. The mound is oval in shape, in excellent condition, unusually well-preserved, and measures about 11 feet by 14 feet in diameter and about 3 feet high above ground.

The area here is one of the western foothills of Little Savage Mountain, sloping northwesterly toward a tributary of Piney Creek, very densely wooded with hemlocks, no houses in sight, though sparsely settled in patches of clearing not far away. The site is within Election District 9 of Garrett County, MD, and Greenville Township of Somerset County, PA; about a half mile northwest of the village of Finzel, MD; about 1¼ miles south-southeast of the settlement of Pocahontas, PA; at a point about 3500 feet due west of MD 546/LR-55002 at the Line and about 200 feet south of the cleared swath that there includes both the old and new pipelines, in such a dense hemlock woods almost no sunlight reaches it. This cannot be seen from any road or the pipeline, and is unmarked, almost impossible to find. It is well protected by this remoteness and obscurity.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sidelings Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground (or mound), with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex are all clear and intact; but there are a series of big chips along the northwest and south vertical edges, and about half of the stone is covered with moss caused by the dampness of the site.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for full descriptions of the 1900-03 Resurvey monuments and original mounds)

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				boundary surveying

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (mound)  
 1902 (monument) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon  
 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE SURVEYORS

Milestone No. --- (182) and its mound of earth are significant on the national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was <sup>originally</sup> surveyed and marked by a cairn in 1767, and a new Cockeysville marble monument added to the center of the mound in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as among the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. --- (182) and its mound are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Frostburg (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series  
(topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 67540, northing 439877

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Garrett

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Somerset

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey 10/12/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

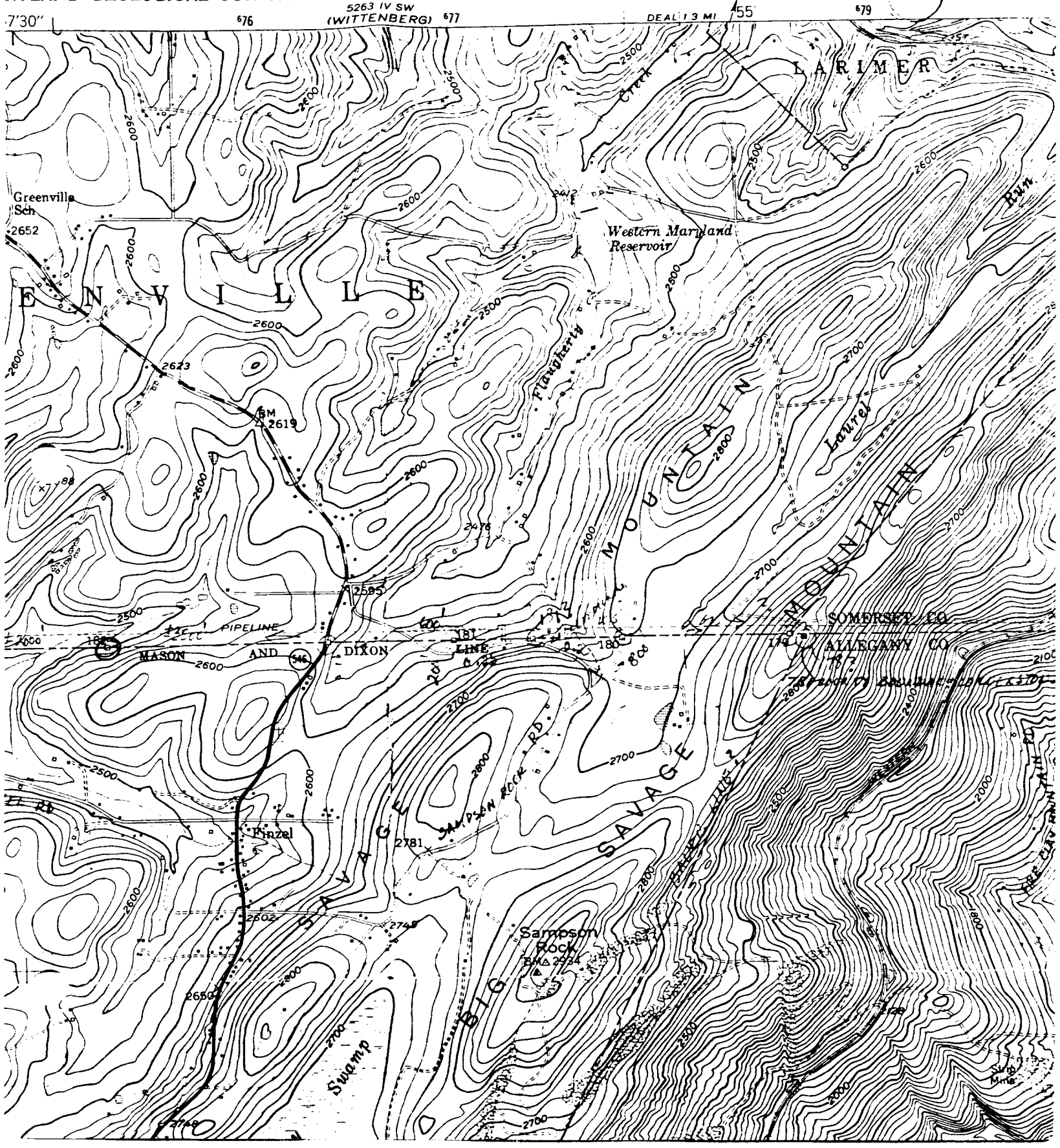
MASON DIXON WEST LINE (HD-PA) BOUNDARY MARKERS:

FROSTBURG QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1949 PHOTOREV. 1974

SCALE: 1" = 2000'

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES  
TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC SURVEY

STATE OF MARYLAND  
MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





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2. 20. 19

MASON (DIXON) WEST LINE: HILLSTONE — (192)  
STONE MONUMENT (192) IN OLD ROAD OF  
EAST. MARKING 168<sup>TH</sup> MILE WEST OF R.E.  
CORNER OF MARYLAND

SU CORNER 922/11

(TERRIBLE) PHOTO: LIKE MARTIN 12/12/81 (19240-24)





DP7

6-28-1960

BASED ON WEST - 1/2 MRESTONE - (102)

STOCK MONUMENT (1932) IN OLD FORDS EARTH MARK 0.2<sup>nd</sup>  
MILE WEST OF NE CORNER OF MARYLAND

NW CORNER (1967 P)

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALICE HARTON 10/12/81 1981.40 (A)